1 OCT 1965

Mr. George C. Denney, Jr. Deputy Director of Intelligence and Research Department of State Washington, D.C.

## Bear George:

Jim Critchfield has, as you were advised some days ago, been designated to represent the Agency in a working group for coordinating various foreign policy matters which will affect the status of in the Near East and South Asia. The Office of the Assistant Secretary for the Near East and South Asia and ISA in Defense have also been advised of his designation.

We are confident that the proposed group will provide a much needed forum for coordinating the policy considerations which relate so directly to major interests of the Intelligence Community.

#### Sincerely,

7s7 Richard Helms

#### Richard Helms

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#### CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20505

## OFFICE OF DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

Mr. George C. Denney, Jr. Deputy Director of Intelligence and Research Department of State Washington, D. C.

Dear George:

In response to your recent letter on the subject of NSAM 337, we agree that an interagency committee convened to prepare a coordinated response to the NSAM would not represent a conflict with the SIGINT Committee.

Jim Critchfield and are in close contact with Mr. Handley on this. I understand that the committee has not met, due to current preoccupation with the India-Pakistan fighting.

When conditions are appropriate for the committee to meet, Jim will represent CIA. Because the subject could involve considerations outside of the NE area (such as airborne or space vehicles, for example), the Director would like to have a member of the NIPE Staff sit in on the meetings. John Bross has designated Tom Parrott as his representative.

Sincerely,

Richard Helms

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#### DEPARTMENT OF STATE

THE DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE AND RESEARCH
WASHINGTON

Dear Admiral Raborn:

In your letter to Secretary Rusk of August 21, you suggested that the State Department take the lead in arranging for interagency cooperation for coordinating various foreign policy matters relating to NSAM 337.

This was the purpose of Tom Hughes' letter to Dick Helms of August 17. The working group proposed there was designed not to duplicate the work of the SIGINT Committee (the role of which was clearly recognized in the outline of the proposed staff study) but to come to grips with the political and policy questions involved.

This still remains our principal task. We agree that it is desirable to get the views of the ambassadors concerned on the parameters within which our planning for alternatives must take place and have already sent queries to the field. Copies of these queries and the answers received to date have been made available to CIA and DOD. If there are any additional questions which anyone wishes to put to the ambassadors, we will be happy to include them in subsequent messages.

The Department believes that we can now take some additional steps. We suggest that your representative, a representative of DOD, and representatives of the State Department bureaus concerned meet toward the end of the week of August 30 or the beginning of the following week to begin work toward a coordinated response to NSAM 337. We anticipate that by that time we will have received the reactions of our ambassador in New Delhi and Tehran, which together with the work of the SIGINT Committee, can serve as a base for discussion. Mr. William Handley, Acting Assistant Secretary for NEA, has agreed to chair this meeting. We shall inform your representative of the time and room in the Department of State.

Sincerely,

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George C. Denney, Jr.

The Honorable
W. F. Raborn,
Director,
Central Intelligence Agency.

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